

don't really want to give these county commissioners carte blanche which is what the original bill was asking for...

PRESIDENT: One minute.

SENATOR HIGGINS: ...for small businessmen, small businessmen carte blanche. Now we are up to \$50,000, but I am going to vote for this amendment. It will be the first time I have been here I have ever voted for an amendment or a bill that I thought was bad, and I want it in the record, I am doing it for one reason, to prove I don't want to hurt Senator Langford or Senator Miller on their amendment or their bill. And if the bill passes with this amendment or without it, the bill is going to play an awful lot of games with the people out there in those counties who have supervisors that don't know the difference between bonds, letters of credit, cashier's checks, and especially where your Cousin Jake is the county supervisor, and his cousin is the contractor. Thank you, Mr. President.

PRESIDENT: Thank you. May I introduce some guests in the north balcony, please. They are guests of Senator Lowell Johnson. We have 35 fourth graders from the Howard School in Fremont with their teacher. Would you folks please stand and be recognized by your Legislature. Thank you for visiting us today. Senator Pappas, please. Thank you. It won't be necessary. You were the last one. Senator Withem. would you like to close, please, on your motion.

SENATOR WITHEM: Yes, I would, Senator Nichol, again, to try to explain and maybe use a little more graphic sort of example here. If this amendment is adopted, the bill will basically say any time there is a performance required of a contractor, he will continue to have to have a performance bond. Any time the contract says that Contractor So-and-So will perform a task for us, build a building, repair a bridge, et cetera, we will continue to require a performance bond. In the event the contract is only for providing a material, in that case we will allow them, and if that material is less than \$50,000, we will allow a different type of security to allow more people who can't get this performance bond to bid on those projects. A very graphic sort of an explanation, if I may use it, using a couple of senators as an example, if Washington County Commissioners, and Senator Korshoj is paying attention, he knows he is going to get picked on here in a second, if Washington County decides that they want to build a new building of some kind, a garage to store equipment, and if they decide they want